

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-16

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

OMB-01 DRC-01 /182 W

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R 192146Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3139

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS USUN 920

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MARR MA XO US UK UN

SUBJ: MADAGASCAR STATEMENT ON INDIAN OCEAN

(DIEGO GARCIA)

REF: USUN 568

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MADAGASCAR COMMUNIQUE CIRCULATED
AS UN DOC A/9585 DATED 18 MARCH ENTITLED "IMPLEMENTA-
TION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS ZONE
OF PEACE".

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QUOTE

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC IS PROFOUNDLY CONCERNED BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES-UNITED KINGDOM PROJECT TO EXPAND PORT AND AIR INSTALLATIONS ON THE ISLAND OF DIEGO-GARCIA IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

THIS PROJECT, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LARGE FUEL TANK, THE EXPANSION OF THE PORT AND THE EXTENSION OF THE 2,400-METRE RUNWAY, WOULD MAKE DIEGO-GARCIA A SIZABLE AIR AND NAVAL BASE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

THE PROJECT IS AIMED AT COUNTERBALANCING GROWING ACTIVITIES AND SOVIET NAVAL EXPANSION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD THE SUEZ CANAL REOPEN.

IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC, TRUE TO ITS POLICY OF PEACE AND NON-ALIGNMENT AND OF NATIONAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU), AND IN CONFORMITY WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RES 2832 (XXVI) OF 16 DECEMBER 1971 ENTITLED "DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE" AND GA RES 3080 (XXVIII) OF 6 DEC 1973 OF WHICH MADAGASCAR WAS A SPONSOR:

1. DENOUNCES THE PROJECT, CONSIDERING IT LIKELY TO BE SERIOUSLY PREJUDICIAL TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

2. REAFFIRMS ITS MOST VEHEMENT OPPOSITION TO ANY POLICY OF "ZONE OF INFLUENCE" AND HEGEMONY AND ALSO TO ANY CONSTRUCTION OF MILITARY BASES OUTSIDE NATIONAL TERRITORY.

3. APPEALS TO ALL THE FORCES OF PEACE AND PROGRESS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, PARTICULARLY TO THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OAU, TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM SO THAT THEY ABANDON THEIR PROJECT.

4. REQUESTS ALL THE GREAT POWERS AND THE "SUPER-POWERS" TO DO EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO STRENGTHEN PEACE AND SECURITY IN

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THE ZONE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN - WHICH HAS SO FAR ESCAPED MILITARY CONFLICT - PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN ACTIVE EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO RESOTRE PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY IN THE NEIGHBOURING AREA OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

END QUOTE

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